



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/019,268 Confirmation No. 1324
Applicant(s) : Siegfried RUTHARDT et al.
Filed : March 12, 2002
TC/A.U. : 3752
Examiner : Davis D. Hwu
Docket No. : R.37379
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: January 13, 2006

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(i),
AND EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE CITED PRIOR ART**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached prior art statement be placed of record in the application file.

This citation of prior art is made under 37 CFR 1.97(i), since it is being filed after payment of the issue fee.

This prior art citation is being submitted under 37 CFR 1.97(i) because the prior art did not come to the attention of the undersigned until a time such that 37 CFR 1.97(e) precluded consideration under 37 CFR 1.97(d).

The undersigned asserts that the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a has been compared to the allowed claims, and that the prior art cited on this form PTO/SB/08a is not materially closer to the claimed subject matter than is the prior art which the examiner has already considered.

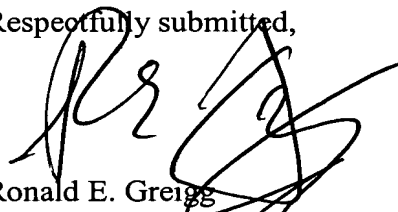
Application No. 10/019,268
IDS filed January 13, 2006
After Payment of the Issue Fee

The relevance of the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a is as follows:

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This patent shows a fluid-tight sealing assembly for the rod of a hydraulic actuator is axially slidable inside a passage of a fixed outer body between a chamber at high pressure and an external environment at low pressure, comprising a first composite seal nearer the chamber at high pressure, with a sealing part sliding on the external surface of the rod and consisting of a ring made of plastics material with a low coefficient of friction, forming a step towards the chamber at high pressure, and surrounded by a toroidal seal made of elastomeric material providing a static seal and radial clamping. The whole is housed in a corresponding seat in the outer body, followed by a second composite seal, nearer the outside, with a sealing part sliding on the rod and consisting of a ring made of an elastomeric material with an angled sealing lip in contact with the surface of the rod, coupled to a ring made of plastics material with a low coefficient of friction, housed in a corresponding seat in the outer body, with the angled sealing lip turned towards the first seal. The seals are axially spaced and an annular chamber is formed between them.

Respectfully submitted,



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Complete if Known

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| Application Number | 10/019,268 |
| Filing Date | March 12, 2002 |
| First Named Inventor | Siegfried RUTHHARDT et al. |
| Art Unit | 3752 |
| Examiner Name | Davis D. Hwu |
| Attorney Docket Number | R.37379 |

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| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | R.37379 |
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| Date | |
| Considered | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.